

Message Text

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LUMPUR MANILA SINGAPORE TOKYO HONG KONG MEDAN SURABAYA
04 AUG QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JAKARTA 10215

HONG KONG PASS TREASURY REP SHARPE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, ECIN, ASEAN, EAID, ID
SUBJECT: GOI OFFICIAL'S COMMENTS ON ASEAN TRADE MEETING

REF: A) SINGAPORE 3493, B) JAKARTA 9793, C) MANILA 6312

1. ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR AND EMBOFF ASKED GOI
DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR FOREIGN TRADE SUHADI MANGKOESOEWONDO
IN 3 AUGUST DISCUSSION FOR HIS COMMENTS ON ASEAN COMMITTEE
TRADE MEETINGS. SUHADI HEADED GOI DELEGATION TO THE
6-8 JULY SESSIONS IN SINGAPORE.

2. SUHADI'S DESCRIPTION OF MEETING ESSENTIALLY AS RE-
PORTED REF A. ACCORDING TO SUHADI, FOCUS OF MEETING
WAS ON PREFERENTIAL TRADE ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN ASEAN.
COMMITTEE CONSIDERED PREFERENTIAL GOVERNMENT PURCHASE
PROGRAMS, PURCHASE-FINANCE SCHEMES, PREFERENTIAL CREDIT
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ARRANGEMENTS, AND LONG-TERM GOVERNMENT SUPPLY CONTRACTS.

SUHADI ECHOED HIS COLLEAGUE DR. A. MOOY'S COMMENTS (REF B) THAT INDONESIA FOR TIME BEING CONTINUES TO BE OPPOSED TO INTERNAL TARIFF ADJUSTMENTS OR CREATION OF ASEAN FREE TRADE ZONE AS METHOD FOR BOOSTING ASEAN MEMBER TRADE.

3. SUHADI SAID PARTICIPANTS EXAMINED AND RANKED THREE GROUPS OF COMMODITIES WHICH ASEAN COULD CONSIDER FOR PREFERENTIAL TRADE ARRANGEMENTS: A) RICE AND PETROLEUM; B) PRODUCTS OF THE FIVE PROPOSED ASEAN INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS (REF C); AND C) A MISCELLANEOUS GROUP OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS INCLUDING CORN, FRESH VEGETABLES, AND PALM OIL.

4. THE TRADE COMMITTEE, ACCORDING TO SUHADI, JUDGED IT PREMATURE TO TAKE NEXT STEP OF LINKING PREFERENTIAL INSTRUMENTS WITH SPECIFIC COMMODITIES. SUBSTANTIALLY MORE DATA ARE NEEDED, ESPECIALLY ON FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS. SUHADI SAID TECHNICAL-LEVEL MEETINGS ON THIS SCORE WOULD BE HELD IN MID-AUGUST.

5. SUHADI ALSO SAID THAT ASEAN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN JAKARTA LATER THIS YEAR, BUT HE DIDN'T HAVE EXACT DATES.

NEWSOM

UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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